

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NEAE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 ACDA-10

OMB-01 SSM-05 /095 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9049

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5257

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: AUGUST 10 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTS JUMBLATT DETERMIN-
ATION TO CONTINUE WAR AND CONTINUED CRITICISM OF SADAT
REGIME

1. SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTED CLASHES IN BEIRUT AND VARIOUS
OTHER FRONTS IN LEBANON, MEETING CHAIRED BY DR. KHOULI TO
CONSOLIDATE CEASE-FIRE AND JUMBLATT STATEMENT AFTER
CONSULTATIONS WITH HIS ALLIES THAT HE READY TO CONTINUE WAR
FOR MANY MONTHS. CONCERNING JUMBLATT REMARKS, AL-BAATH
ASSERTED THAT DRUZE LEADER "REVEALING HIS COMPLETE DISREGARD
FOR INTEREST OF LEBANESE PEOPLE. HE IS IMPLEMENTING
IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST PLANS DESIGNED TO PARTITION LEBANON AND
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DESTROY ITS ARABISM." ACCORDING TO PRESS, KAMAL AS'AD

SUMMONED LEBANESE PARLIAMENT TO DISCUSS PARLIAMENTARY
MEANS OF SETTLING CRISIS.

2. LEBANESE NASSERITE LEADER KAMAL SHATILA CONDEMNED
MEETINGS BETWEEN IDF AND OFFICERS OF KHATIB'S LAA.
PRESS ALSO CITED CONTENTS OF TIME MAGAZINE ARTICLE
REPORTING THAT ISRAEL CONDUCTING PATROLLING OPERATIONS
TO DEPTH OF THREE MILES INSIDE SOUTH LEBANON WITH
IMPLICIT CONSENT OF LT. KHATIB.

3. SANA REPORTED THAT MEMBERS OF FACULTY AT
ALEXANDRIA UNIVERSITY HAVE DEMANDED SADAT ADHERE TO HIS
EARLIER PROMISE AND REFRAIN FROM NOMINATING HIMSELF FOR
NEW TERM OF OFFICE. STATEMENT BY THESE FACULTY MEMBERS
ALLEGEDLY CRITICIZED TORERATION OF CORRUPTION UNDER
SADAT. ANOTHER SANA RELEASE ACCUSED CAIRO REGIME OF
EXPELLING PEASANTS FROM THEIR LANDS. THEIR ARTICLE
CITED KING HUSSEIN'S CRITICISM OF GOE FOR USING
PALESTINIANS AS WEAPON IN HIS PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN
AGAINST SYRIA.

4. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST INDIRECTLY DENOUNCED JUMBLATT
FOR "BEATING DRUMS OF A DIRTY WAR." HE URGED ALL
ARABS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR DOING AWAY WITH
THESE WARMONGERS AND FOR BLOCKING IMPLEMENTATION OF
IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST PLOT. HE ACCURSED US AND ISRAEL
OF COORDINATING PLANS WITH "SOME ARAB REGIMES."

5. COMMENT: SINCE POSTPONEMENT OF SOFAR CONFERENCE,
SYRIAN MEDIA HAVE PROVIDED NO HINTS OF ANY UPCOMING
EFFORTS TO RESUME SYRO-PALESTINIAN DISCUSSIONS AIMED
AT RESTORING CEASE-FIRE IN CONTEXT OF DAMASCUS ACCORD.
MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CIVIL DISORDERS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC05257
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760307-0605
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760870/aaaaciug.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <27 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUGUST 10 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTS JUMBLATT DETERMIN- ATION TO CONTINUE WAR AND CONTINUED CRITICISM OF SADAT REGIME
TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE, (JUMBLATT, KAMAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006